

Indian Adult Education Association

If you know, "TEACH"
If you don't "LEARN"



Shafiq Memorial
17-B Indraprastha Estate
New Delhi-11002

The Association

The Indian Adult Education Association is a national level voluntary organisation dedicated to the promotion of adult/non-formal education in the country. Started in a small way, by a band of dedicated men and women of vision a little over fifty one year ago (December, 1939), the Association has been and continues to be a pioneering institution in the field of adult education. During this period the Association has helped in the emergence of the adult education movement in the country, and at present its diversified programme covers adult non-formal education, social education, continuing and life-long education, each aimed at improvement of quality of life. The Association is registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

In its early days, the Association was guided by outstanding educationists, educational administrators and labour workers who recognised the importance of effective participation of every citizen in the social, economic, religious and political life of the country and the consequent importance of education for every citizen in the democratic, socialist and secular society to have access to the expanding realms of knowledge through adult and life-long education. They believed that in a country like India, adult education had an important role in lifting the illiterate, the down-trodden, and the deprived from their squalor, ignorance, misery and bondages and enable them to take their rightful place in society. Thus, the Association recognised that educational opportunities for life-long learning could help the people achieve their maximum potential as individuals, as citizens and as parents.

In the beginning, the Association's major emphasis was on the creation of public opinion for a public policy on adult education, and on mobilising support for the movement from the government and other public institutions. Today, with adult education recognised as an essential process of national reconstruction, the Association is concerned with making that process purposeful and effective. Towards this end, the Association functions as a federation of some 260 affiliated organisations spread throughout the length and breadth of the country and supports their activities by bringing them together

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in its conferences, seminars, workshops and discussion groups; it also provides its members, including some 1050 'life' and 'yearly' individual members, with expert opinion and experience, national and international through its publications, both periodic and otherwise.

Aims and Objects

As its founding fathers had conceived, the aims and objects of the Association include the following:

- * To spread knowledge among the people of India on all subjects related to their all-round development, welfare and culture in a popular and attractive manner through suitable agencies.
- * To initiate, wherever necessary, adult education activities in cooperation with various organisations and individuals interested in the work, and to encourage and coordinate local efforts and organisations engaged in promoting the cause of adult education.
- * To serve as 'Clearing House' for exchange of ideas, information and advice concerning adult education in different States of India.
- * To cooperate with movements aiming at the removal of illiteracy and ignorance and the promotion of civic, economic and cultural interests of the people.
- * To serve as a connecting link for inter-State cooperation and coordination.
- * To prepare and supply, if necessary, slides, charts, films, booklets, suitable literature, etc., and to undertake publication of bulletins, newsletters and journals.
- * To arrange public lectures, demonstrations, seminars, etc., for the furtherance of the objects of the Association.
- * To organise Indian Adult Education Conference and other meetings in furtherance of the objectives.

- * To persuade universities, colleges and other educational bodies in the country to take up adult education work and to do all other acts that are incidental to the fulfilment of the above mentioned aims and objectives of the Association.

ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

The functions of the Association are as varied and wide-ranging as its aims and objectives. The following is a brief account of the activities undertaken by the Association from time to time.

As a Catalytic Agent

Started in a small way fifty one years ago, the Association has been and is pioneer, a promoter, a catalytic agent. It acts as adviser to the Central and State Governments and its member-institutions on adult education.

As a 'Clearing House'

Dissemination of information is vital for the growth and development of adult education. The Association has been and continues to serve as a 'Clearing House' by way of its publications and by providing information and guidance to individuals and organisations through correspondence, etc.

Indian Journal of Adult Education

An English quarterly which is as old as the Association itself.

The Journal which has now entered its 52 year of publication, is a journal of inquiry, opinion and information on adult education. It is the only journal of its kind at the national-level with wide circulation extended to foreign countries.

Proudh Shiksha

A Hindi monthly which caters to the needs of field level workers and neo-literates in Hindi speaking States.

It contains short stories, folk-tales and case-studies about pioneering experiments in adult education.

IAEA Newsletter

The Association publishes a Newsletter in English once a month. It is devoted to the coverage of the activities undertaken by the Association and various institutions/organisations, official and non-official, in the field of adult/non-formal education. It also includes abstracts of important books on the relevant subjects and an annotated list of new additions to the library of the Association.

Jago aur Jagao

The Association publishes a monthly magazine 'Jago Aur Jagao' for neo-literates. It helps the neo-literates to get their knowledge of reading and writing stabilized and provide them current information about development programmes, health education, science and technology etc.

Organising Seminars, Workshops, Conferences, (Annual/ Zonal) Symposia, Round Tables, Group Discussions etc.

Constituting one of the major activities of the Association, Seminars, Workshops, Symposia, Round Tables, Group Discussions etc. are organised on different aspects of adult education and in different parts of the country to discuss various facets of adult education and serve as an important means of exchange of views, pooling of experience etc.

Every year, the Association convenes an all India Adult Education Conference in which a large number of adult educators from all parts of the country participate. The Association has so far organised 43 annual conferences in different parts of the country. The recommendations of these Conferences/Seminars have helped in policy formulation and guided the field workers in the better implementation and organisation of adult education programmes.

Correspondence Courses

The Association organised correspondence courses for workers in Hindi on Collective Bargaining and Trade Unions. Workers Education Programmes are organised for industrial workers to improve their quality of life. It is now organising courses for workers of the unorganised sector.

Training

The Association accords high priority to training of adult education functionaries. Since 1948, it has organised training for adult and social education functionaries and trade union leaders. It has organised intra state and inter-state training for key level functionaries of Government Departments, NGOs and universities and colleges, trade union workers in different parts of the country. It has organised programmes in far flung areas where tribal population lives.

Literacy Awards

i) **Nehru Literacy Award** instituted in 1962 to commemorate the distinguished services of Jawaharlal Nehru for the cause of reason and enlightenment, the Award is given annually to an individual or an institution for outstanding contribution to the promotion of adult education in the country. There have been twenty three recipients of the Award so far.

ii) **Tagore Literacy Award** instituted in 1987 to commemorate the 125th Birth Anniversary of great poet Guru Rabindranath Tagore for outstanding contribution towards the promotion and development of literacy among women. So far four Awards have been given.

Adult Education for Women

In the earlier years the Association conducted condensed courses for Adult Women. It is now engaged in organising Awareness Generation Camps for women living in slums and resettlement colonies. It gives them information on development programmes, health and hygiene, population education and environment.

Dr. Zakir Husain Memorial Lecture

This is another important activity in memory of another innovator in the field of adult education and also founder father of IAEA and adult education movement. The lecture is delivered by an eminent educationist on the occasion of the Annual Conference on request of the Association. So far 21 lectures have been delivered.

Research

The Association accords high priority to research in adult education so as to improve the on-going adult education programme, undertakes surveys and study projects on its own as well as in collaboration with other Institutions.

Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta Research Fellowship

The Association has instituted Mohan Sinha Mehta Research Fellowship in honour of our late President Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta in 1986. It is awarded every year to individual to carry out research in the field of Adult Education.

Field Work

The Association undertakes field projects as and when necessary to have feed back and experience from the field. The Association also helps its member Institutions in their field work through its panel of experienced adult educators.

Reference Library and Reading Room Service

The Jha Library (established in 1977) named after one of the former Presidents of the Association, Dr. Amaranatha Jha, has a collection of books on various aspects of adult education. The Library operates on an open access basis and is open to use by members and others. A large stock of Indian and foreign periodicals and other reading material is also available. It has bound volumes of journals on Adult Education published by different agencies in the Globe.

Relations with Local, State, National and International Organisations

The Indian Adult Education Association believes that a strong national organisation needs strong roots among the people. State and local adult education organisations are encouraged. The Association is the unifying national body, providing a central exchange and meeting place for national, state-level and local organisations.

The Association also maintains regular contacts with adult education organisations in other countries, so that the experience of other lands may be available for use here. It is the national member of the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE), International Federation of Workers' Educational Associations (IFWEA) and the Asian South Pacific Bureau of Adult Education (ASPBAE).

Membership

All persons who subscribe to the aims and objects of the Association are eligible to become members. Institutions, or undertakings involved in adult education programmes can also become members provided they have been engaged in adult education for at least three years. Membership is of following kinds :

a) Institutional Membership:

- Voluntary Organisations and colleges
- Government Institutions, Universities & Local Government Bodies

b) Individual Membership:

- Life Membership
- Yearly Membership

All members receive a copy of either the English quarterly 'Indian Journal of Adult Education' or the Hindi monthly 'Proudh Shiksha' free of cost and the other journal at half of cost and are entitled to concession on purchase of literature published by the Association. In addition, the monthly English IAEA Newsletter is also sent free to all members. Institutional representatives and individual members are eligible to attend as delegates the annual conference organised by the Association in different parts of the country.

The Association's headquarters is located in 'Shafiq Memorial' at 17-B, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi - 110002.

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